

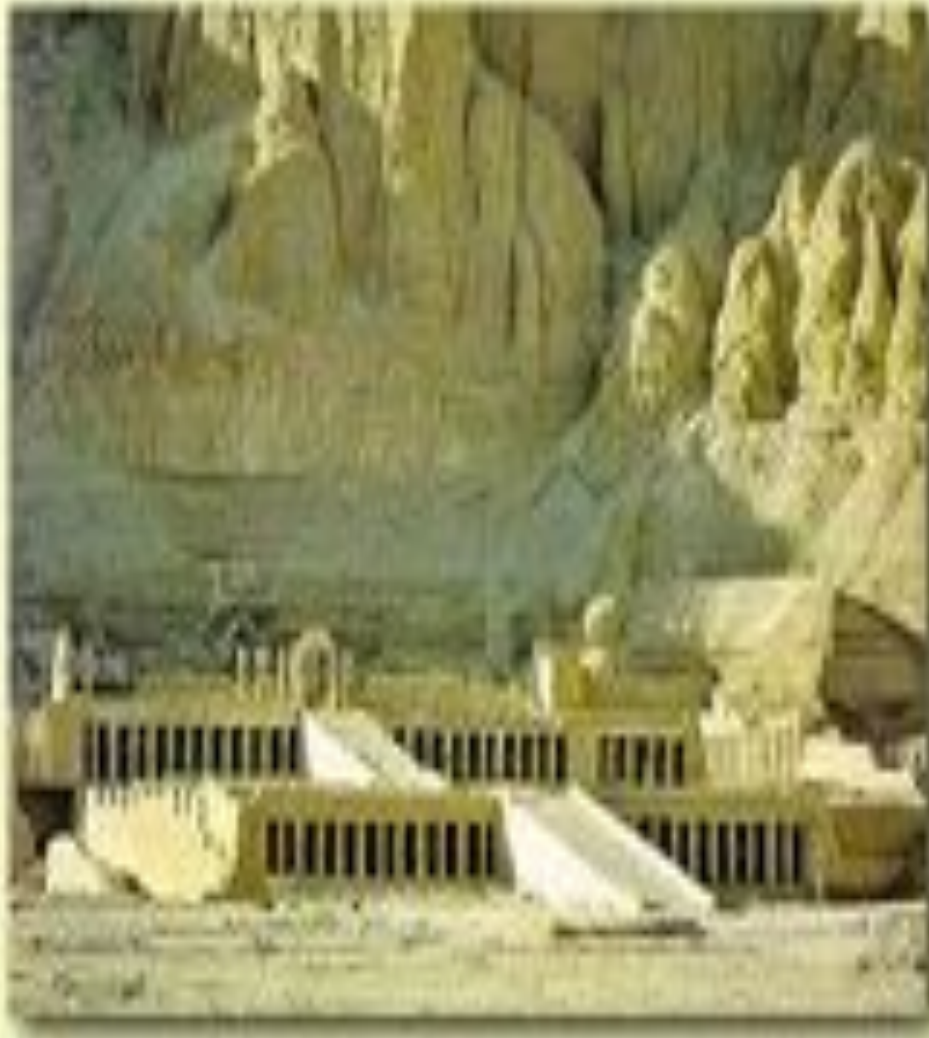
Unit 2

ANCIENT EGYPT



2.1 The Rise of the Nation of Egypt

The Old Kingdom



The Nile Valley



History of Ancient Egypt

The History of Ancient Egypt



The Nile Valley

- The most important geographic influence of Egyptian culture and civilization was the Nile River
- Egypt- “the gift of the Nile”
- Rainfall is scarce, but it was the flooding of the Nile upon which the fortunes of Egypt depended



The Nile Valley

- The waters of the Nile come from

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The Nile Valley

- Flooding occurred annually between July and October
- The receding waters left behind rich soil
- Flooding was predictable so the Egyptians could use this to their advantage

The Nile Valley

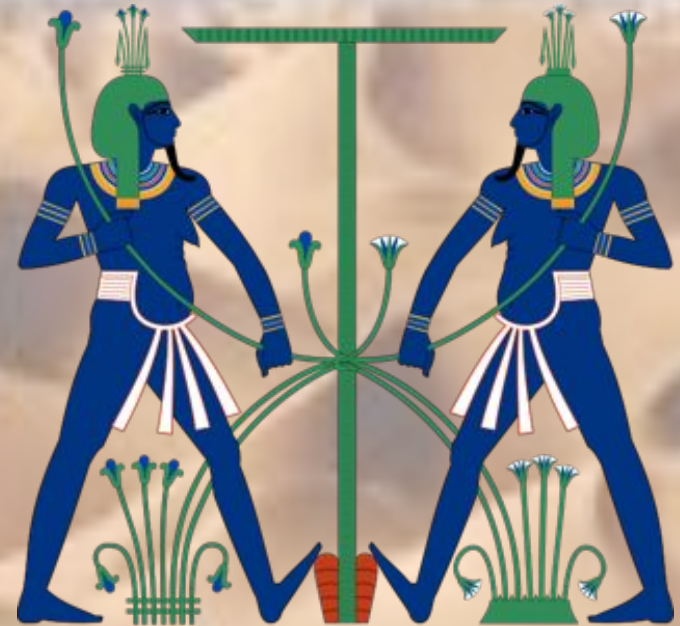
- Nile was also important for transportation



- Limestone blocks used to build the pyramids coming from Giza and Aswan

The Nile Valley

- God of the Nile: Hapi



- Depicted with breasts and stomach to indicate fertility and his ability to nourish the land through the Nile's annual floods





The Nile Delta

- The area in which the Nile empties into the Mediterranean Sea is called the Nile Delta

Nile Delta is the most fertile land in all of Egypt



Deserts and Isolation

- Egypt between two deserts



Deserts and Isolation

- Deserts protected Egypt from invasion and also insulating Egyptians from outside influences
- Important sources of minerals and building supplies including copper, gold, tin, alabaster, limestone and natron (the drying agent used in the mummification process)

I. The Nile

- Impact on religion
 - divided life - living and dying.
 - East (sunrise) is land of the living - cities, temples
 - West (sunset) is land of the dead - tombs

The Rise of the Nation of Egypt



The Rise of the Nation of Egypt

- Egypt history is generally divided into three eras, each characterized by its own accomplishments
- The New Kingdom
2686 BCE to 2150 BCE – The Pyramids
- The Middle Kingdom
2050 BCE to 1700 BCE- Egypt greatly expanded it's political and economic boundaries
- The New Kingdom
1550 BCE to 1070 BCE- The Golden Age

The Old Kingdom

- Ruled by a monarchy until King Menes
- First to unite Egypt and wear the double crown symbolizing the unity of upper and lower Egypt



The Old Kingdom



Upper
Egypt



Lower
Egypt



Unity of
two kingdoms

The Old Kingdom

2686 BCE- 2181 BCE

- By the time of the Old Kingdom, the king was ruler of all of Egypt and considered a God
- He was the supreme ruler of all affairs, secular and religious



Red Crown

Double Crown

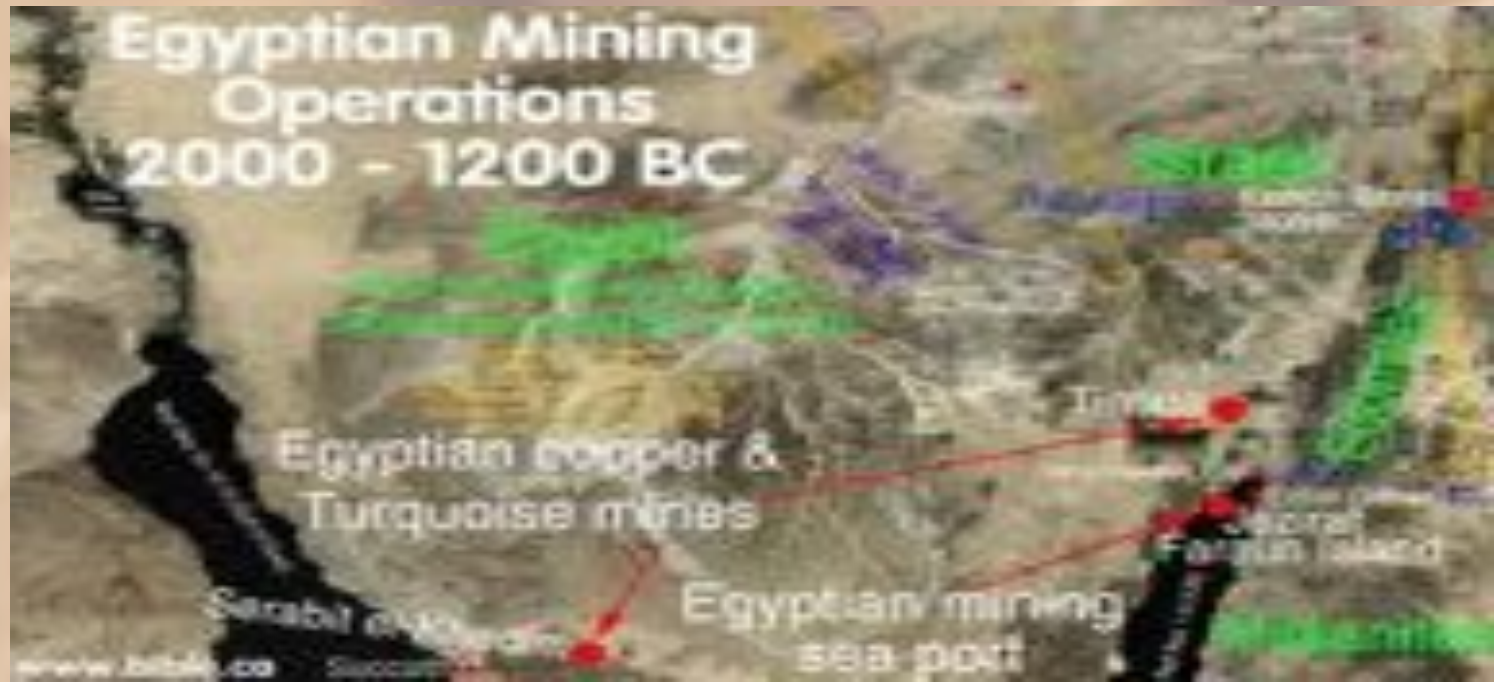
White Crown

The Crowns of the Pharaohs of Egypt

The Old Kingdom

2686 BCE- 2181 BCE

- Old Kingdom reached its peak during the 4th dynasty by engaging in trade throughout the Mediterranean and by mining copper in the Sinai Peninsula



The Old Kingdom

2686 BCE- 2181 BCE

- The greatest symbols of wealth of the Old Kingdom were the three massive pyramids at Giza.



Pyramids of Giza



Imhotep: An Egyptian Genius

- Seldom were the lives and accomplishments of individuals other than Pharaohs recorded
- One exception is **Imhotep**, known as Egypt's multi genius
- Served as Pharaoh Djoser's right hand man



Imhotep: An Egyptian Genius

- Imhotep was the first individual (non-ruler) whose life has been recorded and passed on through history
- “The Chancellor of the King of Lower Egypt, the first after the King of Upper Egypt, administrator of the great palace, hereditary lord, the High Priest of Heliopolis, Imhotep the builder, the sculptor, and the maker of stone vases”



Imhotep: An Egyptian Genius

- He was the founder of the Egyptian system of medicine
- He was also the architect that who designed and supervised the construction of the world's first stone building and the first pyramid



Imhotep: An Egyptian Genius

- Believed that he is buried with papyrus scripts detailing 8 magic spells as well as descriptions of 48 different injuries
- Tomb has not been found



Imhotep: An Egyptian Genius

- He was also the architect that who designed and supervised the construction of the world's first stone building and the first pyramid

